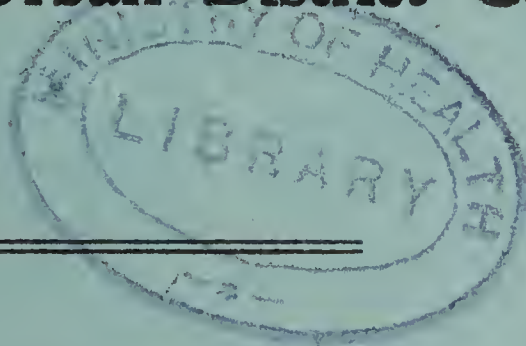


Northwich Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended 31st Dec., 1953.

NORTHWICH :

W. HOBSON & SON, LTD., PRINTERS.

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Northwich Urban District Council.

Health Report for 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the Northwich Urban District Council.

Mesdames and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1953.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,137 acres
Population — Registrar-General's latest estimate of population	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,470
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,407
Rateable Value (1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£129,790
Sum represented by Penny Rate (1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£492

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

			Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	{	Legitimate ..	185	102	83	{	Birth Rate per 1000 of the esti-
		Illegitimate ..	5	1	4		mated resident population .. 11·53
							After adjustment by the Comparability Factor 11·76
Still Births	{	Legitimate ..	4	4	—	{	Rate per 1000 total (live and
		Illegitimate ..	—	—	—		still) births 20·61
Deaths..	{	.. .. .	196	109	87	{	Death Rate per 1000 of the esti-
		.. .. .					mated resident population .. 11·90
		.. .. .					After adjustment by the Comparability Factor 11·90
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—							
		All infants per 1000 live births	..	..	..	..	36·84
		Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	37·83
		Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages), including 7 of the lung .. 34							
		Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	—
		Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	—

The following table compares the main statistics for 1953 with the years 1942-1952:—

Year.	Popu- lation	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	No. of Deaths from Cancer	No. of Deaths from Tubercu- losis
1942.	18,290	15.14	11.31	57.76	33	9
1943.	18,130	18.42	12.18	47.90	32	7
1944.	18,070	17.43	14.27	41.26	40	13
1945.	18,130	19.02	13.67	60.86	32	8
1946.	19,150	21.14	12.95	46.91	38	13
1947.	19,580	20.02	11.54	40.81	32	1
1948.	19,230	18.09	11.18	28.73	41	9
1949.	18,810	17.33	12.59	39.87	28	8
1950.	18,330	13.64	13.42	32.00	40	—
1951.	17,160	14.10	15.09	45.45	39	4
1952.	16,920	14.59	13.00	28.34	40	2
1953.	16,470	11.53	11.90	36.84	34	4

CAUSES OF DEATH — 1953

(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables).

	MALES.	FEMALES	TOTAL.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	—	4
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	5	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	1	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	10	15
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
16. Diabetes	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	18	28
18. Coronary disease, angina	14	8	22
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease	22	21	43
21. Other circulatory disease	6	7	13
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	6	1	7
24. Bronchitis	6	2	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	—	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	5	15
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
34. All other accidents	4	1	5
35. Suicide	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
TOTAL	109	87	196

New Industries.—In the Town Plan for Northwich, certain areas to the North of the Town were designated for light industrial development. Negotiations have been proceeding and are reaching finality for the erection of a textile factory, which it is hoped will ultimately employ a considerable proportion of female labour.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(A) Provided by the District Council.

(1) Staff.

W. S. Slater, M.B. Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, Hartford Hill, Darwin Street, Northwich, Cheshire.	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts, the County Council and the North and Mid- Cheshire Hospital Man- agement Committee).
Clerical Staff.	1 person (whole-time).	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts).
T. Baines, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods.	Senior Sanitary Inspector. The Council House, Northwich.	(Northwich Urban Dis- trict Council only).
F. Johnson, M.S.I.A., Cert R.S.I. Meat and other Foods.	Additional Sanitary Inspector.	-do-
F. Lamb.	Junior Assistant (resigned 3/8/53).	-do-
G. Dutton	Junior Clerk	-do-

(2) Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Services in Manchester, which are provided free of charge to the Northwich Urban District Council, proved adequate during the year. In addition, this Service has co-operated in the transport of the samples twice monthly from this area. Details of the samples and specimens are given later in the report.

(3) Environmental Services.

Details of the other Services, e.g. Sanitary and Housing Inspections, Food Examinations, etc., etc., provided by the Northwich Urban District Council are recorded later in this report.

(B) Isolation Hospital Services.

Davenham Isolation Hospital, under the North and Mid-Cheshire Hospital Management Committee provided Hospital treatment for the area's infectious cases and during the year admitted 35 patients from the Northwich Urban District, out of a total of 238 admissions.

The proposal of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board to convert this hospital for maternity purposes was considered by the Council towards the end of the year.

(C) Provided by the County Council.

The Cheshire County Council have Officers discharging duties in the Urban Area under the following Services:— School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare, including Milk Food Sales, Tuberculosis, School Dental, Health Visiting, Weights and Measures Inspection, Specialist Services, e.g. Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Paediatric, Home and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, Speech Therapy, Residential and Temporary Accommodation, under the County Welfare Services.

(D) Provided by the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee

The Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee (under the auspices of the County Council) provided the following Services:—

(a) Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.

The work done during the year 1953 in Northwich Urban District is detailed as follows:—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Pre-School Children	...	...	...	...	...	136
School Children	...	...	...	...	...	14
Re-immunised	...	...	...	...	...	118
Total						268

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Pre-School Children	...	...	...	...	...	96
School Children	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total						99

Vaccination against Smallpox.

Under 1 Year	...	...	...	...	...	61
1—5 Years	...	...	...	...	...	3
School Children	...	...	...	...	...	1
Adults	...	...	...	...	...	40
Total						105

The protective treatments against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Smallpox remain a free service under the National Health Service Act.

(b) **Sitting Case Car and Ambulance Service.**

The service in the area continued to deal with Northwich Urban patients expeditiously and without serious complaint throughout the year.

(c) **Prevention of Illness — Care and After Care.**

Nursing requisites and after-care equipment were loaned for the use of the sick and needy in a number of homes during the year.

(d) **Domestic Help Service.**

Domestic Helps have been provided during 1953 in 33 households in the Urban District. The kind of cases assisted included old age, confinement and tuberculosis, etc.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—The water services are under the control of the Mid & South East Cheshire Water Board.

During the course of the year, the Water Board has submitted to me, for information, 26 copies of the Analyst's Reports of samples of water taken in the Northwich Urban District, all of which were reported upon satisfactorily.

Swimming Bath.—The water in the baths has been maintained in a satisfactory condition during 1953. Ten samples of the swimming bath water submitted to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination were reported upon satisfactorily.

The total number of bathers using the swimming baths during the 1953 season was 48,837. This figure includes members of the public, organised parties of school children and in-patients of a nearby Miners' Rehabilitation Centre, etc.

Children's Paddling Pool.—During the year, three samples of the paddling pool water were submitted to the Laboratory for examination. Two samples were reported upon quite satisfactorily and the other suggested the need for the emptying and cleansing of the pool. This was promptly carried out.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—The sewage from the Leftwich, Rudheath and Hartford Manor Estates flows to the Rural District Council's works at Rudheath and Davenham, and the responsibility for these works rests with the Rural District Council.

Preliminary work on the survey of sewers was continued and the Council has agreed to the purchase of recording apparatus to measure flows in sewers. The Council has also agreed that, when appropriate, consultants be retained for the design of pumping stations, mains and sewers.

During the year there have been no major alterations at the Wallerscote Joint Outfall Works, from which a satisfactory effluent has been obtained.

Rivers Pollution. — There has been no alteration in the pollution of the Rivers Dane and Weaver within the Urban District, but it is anticipated that when the proposals for re-sewerage are carried out, the degree of pollution will be materially reduced.

Closet Accommodation.—No conversions of pail-closets to the water-carriage system were carried out during the year. As a result of progressive policy during previous years, the number of pail-closets in the District is now only 35. Although it was not possible to convert these 35 to water-closets, it was felt that something should be done to improve conditions. It was decided to supply a sanitary fluid and when the pails were emptied the appropriate amount of fluid was left in the pail and the tenant concerned undertook to add the necessary water. The contents of these pails were collected during ordinary working hours, and thus the night-soil collection was discontinued. After a month's trial it was evident that this method was quite successful.

Schools.—The County Education Committee are responsible for school premises in the district.

Factories.—Co-operation is maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories, and it is possible to remedy most of the defects by informal action. In these days of labour shortages, most firms are anxious to provide amenities to attract staff.

Public Cleansing.—Mr. Baines, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows:—

“The refuse collection and disposal service of this Council is comparable with any other authority. In spite of labour difficulties, a regular weekly service has been maintained, the only interruption in the service being due to holidays and weather difficulties.

No overtime has been worked during the twelve months on the collection of refuse.

The disposal of refuse has been satisfactorily carried out and difficulties have been encountered on the tipping site due to the lack of good covering soil. Although dwelling houses are in close proximity to the tip, few complaints have been received and these were traced to interference with the tip by children and youths.

Probably the outstanding feature of the Department this year is the building of a new Health Depot. These premises consist of garages, storage facilities for waste paper, dustbins, oil, etc., foreman's office and, not the least important, excellent facilities for the workmen. A mess room is fitted with good cupboard and heating facilities, with means of warming food and drying clothes, and every man has his own locker with a separate towel. Modern conveniences are provided, and hot and cold water for washing purposes. Although the premises were long overdue, they reflected great credit on the Council and attracted interest over a large area. Incorporated in this Depot was an electric paper-baling machine, and an immediate improvement was noticed in the amount of paper baled.

The position regarding salvage showed an improvement, and towards the end of the year it became obvious that there was a ready market for this commodity.

The collection and disposal of kitchen waste again proved to be both satisfactory and profitable. The income derived from all salvage is sufficient to reduce considerably the unavoidable high cost of this very essential service.

The figures for salvage collected and disposed of during 1953 are as follows:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	196	9	0	1,227	17	2
Salvage, other than Waste Paper	161	17	1	692	8	10"

Street Cleansing.—The Council gave authority for the purchase of a new road sweeping vehicle, which will be in operation in 1954.

Recreational and Open Spaces.—Further extensive tree and shrub plantings have taken place on Housing Sites. At Verdin Gardens, a large unproductive grass area was brought into condition and further flower beds formed. This additional colour has been much appreciated by the public.

Offensive Trades.—No difficulties have arisen during the year in connection with offensive trades.

Rodent Infestation.—Mr. Baines further reports:—

“In dealing with rodent infestation, it is pleasing to report the continued improvement in the position regarding rats and mice infestations. This improvement has been gradual and without doubt much of it is due to the policy which the Ministry of Food commenced during the war years, and which was later transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Council's policy of giving a free service to householders is also fully justified, people readily reporting infestations, thus enabling treatment to be given before a serious degree of infestation occurs. The Council has contracts for the regular servicing of 17 premises.

During 1953, treatment for rats and mice was carried out at 187 premises, the sewage works at Winnington were regularly treated, and the sewers throughout the District were test-baited for rats and found to be free from infestation.

During the year, an assistant who was carrying out duties as a part-time rodent operator left the Department, so leaving only one part-timer engaged on this work."

Common Lodging Houses.—As indicated in the last Annual Report, no common lodging houses exist in Northwich and the last one has now been demolished.

Canal Boats.—No new canal boats were registered during the year, but the registration of one was cancelled. The number of boats now registered with this Authority is 31.

Licensed Caravan Sites.—The Council has not licensed any sites in the District, but has continued the licences for several caravan dwellers on a site formerly used as a fairground. This matter is under constant review and it is hoped that as and when the housing position permits, these people will be offered alternative accommodation.

Difficulties which have existed in one area for very many years, because of camping by gypsies and hawkers, have been finally abated. The land in question changed hands and access is no longer possible.

Disinfestation of Premises. — The practice of giving a free disinfestation service was continued, treatment for various types of insect infestation being carried out at 69 premises during the year.

Rag, Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.—There is only one factory registered under this Act in the district.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Statement of Inspections made and Notices Issued.

(Based on Statement made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Nature of Inspections made	Num-ber.	Number of Notices served		Result of Service of Notices.			
		Statu-tory.	Infor-mal.	Notice compli-ed with	Remai-ning in hand.	Prosecutions	
						Institu-ted	Pend-ing
1. Dwelling Houses	2285	..	189	148	58	..	..
(general inspection) .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Cellar Dwellings	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Back-to-Back Houses	95	..	2	2	..	..	..
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ..	—	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Courts, Yards, Passages ..	78	..	2	2	..	..	..
6. Pail Closets .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Cesspools	134	..	50	37	13	..	..
8. House Drainage	8	..	2	2	..	..	..
9. Ditches, Watercourses	14	..	7	7	1	..	..
10. Offensive Accumulation	6	..	3	2	1	..	..
11. Keeping of Animals .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Offensive Trades .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. (a) Slaughterhouses (Public) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" " (Private) .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Other Places where food is provided or sold	660	..	24	17	3	..	..
14. Piggeries	8	..	1	1	..	..	..
15. (a) Dairies	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Cowsheds .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Milkshops	24	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. (a) Factories	97	..	17	9	8	..	..
(b) Workshops .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Workplaces .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(d) Outworkers' Premises .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Bakehouses (Overground) ..	52	..	15	12	3	..	..
18. Common Lodging Houses ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19. Houses let in Lodgings .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20. Smoke Nuisances	10	..	5	5	1	..	..
21. Canal Boats	4	..	1	1	..	..	..
22. Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits	70	..	..	..	..	..	..
23. Miscellaneous (including Rats and Mice)	361	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3923	..	318	245	88	..	..

FACTORIES INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		In- spections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	17	8	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	93	80	9	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	108	97	17	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ..	4	4	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S. 2).. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	4	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	12	9	—	5	—

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Provision of New Houses. — During the year 1953-54, 178 houses were erected upon the Leftwich Estate, and although some houses were being erected at Hartford Manor, these were not completed until January, 1954.

One house was erected by private enterprise during the year.

The floor area of houses has been reduced as required by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and in later contracts the proportion of 2 bedroomed houses increased.

Preliminary roadworks off Belmont Road for a further 20 dwellings were constructed, and houses will be erected on the site in 1954.

The total number of dwellings erected in the Urban District since the war is now 821, of which 50 are temporary bungalows. No new temporary dwellings were constructed during the year under review and no large houses were converted.

Sites.—The necessity for new sites was considered by the Housing Committee, when it was indicated that there is still available on the Leftwich site sufficient area to allow for the erection of a further 378 houses. Proposals were also formulated for 20 houses off Belmont Road, Rudheath.

A growing proportion of the families requiring rehousing is from property condemned under the Housing Act. The tendency is now for smaller family units, especially elderly people, to require re-housing.

Housing Act, 1936. — During the year, 41 dwellings were represented under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and 7 under Section 12. The tenants were re-housed by the Council and the demolition of the property is proceeding.

The Council's policy of allocating a proportion of its new houses to re-house families living in sub-standard property is to be commended. As and when a housing survey takes place in the future, it will be found that the number of properties for demolition will appear to be comparatively small in proportion to the size of the District.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Northwich Urban District Council remains the responsible Authority for the registration of milk distributors and their dairies, except when the distributor is also a milk producer.

There are 23 milk distributors operating in Northwich and 1 registered dairy.

The Northwich Urban District Council is also responsible for granting licences authorising milk distributors to use the special designations "Tuberculin Tested," "Accredited" and Pasteurised."

The following licences were granted to milk distributors in 1953:—

8 licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk.

7 licences to sell Pasteurised Milk.

Supplementary Licences:—

7 licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk.

7 licences to sell Pasteurised Milk.

At Castle Park Dairies there is a Pasteurising Plant which is licensed by the Cheshire County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

Milk Sampling.—During the year under review, 72 samples of milk were submitted for examination, as follows:—

	Satisfactory
5 Tuberculin Tested Milk	5
16 T.T./Pasteurised Milk	16
47 Pasteurised Milk	47
4 Ungraded Milk	4

In addition, 9 samples were submitted for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. All samples proved negative.

There is little doubt that the standard of cleanliness in the milk supply of Northwich is exceedingly good, and it is unusual for an unsatisfactory report to be received. On these odd occasions, it is found that the purveyors of milk are as concerned as the Health Department to find the cause of the trouble.

(b) **Ice Cream.**—During the year, 5 new registrations were granted and the position at the end of 1953 was as follows:—

Registered premises for the sale only of ice-cream	52
Registered premises for the sale and manufacture of ice-cream	3
Total	55

The Methylene Blue test is still employed as an indicator of cleanliness of ice-cream, and during 1953, 45 samples were submitted for laboratory examination, with the following results:—

	Satisfactory.
Grade I	34 samples
Grade II	11 „
Grade III	— „
Grade IV	— „

The results obtained from the sampling are very satisfactory and do give a guide to the high standard of hygiene practised by the ice-cream manufacturers.

(c) **Food Inspection.**

(i) **Meat & Meat Products.**—All the meat for Northwich is still supplied from the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse and Depot at Winsford. Whilst the present system has many shortcomings, there is little doubt that when meat is freed from rationing, other problems will arise.

(ii) **Fried Fish.**—There are 22 registered premises for the frying of fish. During the year, several businesses have changed hands and changes of registration have been effected.

(iii) **Bakehouses.**—The 27 bakehouses in the district are satisfactory and steps are taken at every opportunity to bring about improvements wherever necessary.

52 routine inspections were made during the year.

(iv) **Other Foods.**—During 1953, a total of 2 tons 5 cwt. 70 lbs. of food of all kinds was condemned or surrendered as unfit by traders at local shops, cafes and canteens.

The amount of food condemned shows a slight decrease on last year.

In addition, the following, based upon a statement by the County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples obtained in the Northwich Urban District during the year 1953:—

Nature of Sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Barley (Pearl)	1	—
Bismuth of Soda Mixture ...	1	1
Cheese	1	—
Chocolate	1	—
“Coronation Kisses” (Kiddies’ Sweets)	1	—
“Double” Cream	1	—
Dripping	1	—
Glauber’s Salt	1	—
Glycerine, Lemon and Ipecac Balsam	1	—
Ice Cream	2	—
Iced Lollipops	3	—
Meat Paste (Tongue)	1	—
MILK (Fresh)	42	3
Root Ginger	1	—
Sweets (“Pear Drops”)	1	—
Sweets (assorted)	1	—
Zinc Ointment	1	—
Total	61	4

Particulars of non-standard samples.

No.	Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1	Milk	Adulterated with 6.3% of extraneous water.	Retail sale of pint of milk from a churn. Seller was prosecuted and fined £15 and ordered to pay £1 1s. 0d. costs.
2.	Milk (Channel Islands).	Deficient in fat 12.5%.	Retail sale of bottle of milk as supplied ready bottled by a producer in the Northwich Rural District. Full particulars sent to Ministry of Food in accordance with instructions contained in Circular M.F. 8/48.
3.	Milk	"Genuine"—naturally deficient in non-fatty solids 2.3%.	Sample taken as milk was being delivered to a Works, following a complaint as to its quality. As sample was "genuine" no action was necessary.
4.	Bismuth & Soda Mixture.	"ambiguously described & indeed incorrectly compounded on the footing of the ingredients stated on label of bottle."	Purchase of a bottle at Chemist's shop. Printer's error on label was cause of the trouble. Chemist was cautioned and agreed to amend labels on the half dozen bottles remaining in stock.

(v) **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**—One licence was renewed for the slaughter of animals, the number now in operation being 2.

(vi) **Pet Animals Act, 1951.**—The Senior Sanitary Inspector was appointed as authorised officer under this Act, which came into force on 1st April, 1952.

There are 2 premises in the district licensed as pet shops.

SECTION F.
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

(1) The incidence of Infectious Diseases was low, as may be gathered from the following table:—

DISEASES.	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	17	17
Acute Pneumonia	7	2
Erysipelas	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—
Dysentery	8	8
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	61	—
Whooping Cough	64	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1

Copies of reports on all pathological specimens submitted by the local Doctors to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory are received by me. These are of great value in that immediate preventive measures can be put in hand by the Health Department where needed.

(2) **TUBERCULOSIS.**

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1953.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 „ ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 „ ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 „ ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 „ ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55 „ ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 „ ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	6	4	—	—	4	—	—	—

During 1953, 11 cases were admitted to and 13 discharged from Sanatoria.

Number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years:—

1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
165	175	185	182	176	146	151	146	137	101	106	79

The most useful reduction in the number of tuberculosis cases on the Urban register can be explained, I believe, by the quite large number of tuberculosis patients who now have been rehoused by the Council in their own houses situated in the adjoining Rural District.

B.C.G. Protection against Tuberculosis.—B.C.G. vaccination of 3 contacts to cases of tuberculosis in the Northwich Urban District has been carried out during the year at the local Chest Clinic.

(3) CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP.

In connection with a holiday camp sponsored by a local industry, the medical examination of some 153 Mid-Cheshire school children was arranged for in August, 1953, prior to their departure to this holiday camp situated in North Wales. 65 of the children were residents in the Northwich Urban District.

(4) DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

The disinfection of 69 homes and other premises was carried out during the year, as follows:—

For Tuberculosis (plus steam disinfection of bedding) ...	9
For Infectious Diseases, etc.	60

I would like to say, in closing this report, how much I appreciate the help I have received from the Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

August, 1954.

N.B.—The removal of the combined Divisional and M.O.H. Office from Whitehall to Hartford Hill, Darwin Street, Northwich, took place on 25th September, 1953.

